

The Office of Legislator Al Krupski Suffolk County Legislator 1st District

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Legislator Al Krupski Announces NARCAN Training Class

To help address the growing number of heroin and prescription pain medication overdoses, a NARCAN Training Class will be held on Wednesday, October 22, 2014, 7 pm, at the Riverhead Fire Department, located at 540 Roanoke Avenue. The training is sponsored by Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone, the Suffolk County Department of Health Services, the Kiwanis Club of Greater Riverhead and Legislator Al Krupski.

Legislator Krupski, who represents the First Legislative District, stated "We know the incidence of heroin and prescription drug use and overdose is a big problem in Suffolk County, including within my own district. Not only must we address the root cause of drug abuse and addiction, but the community should be better prepared to deal with these life threatening emergencies."

NARCAN can be administered in the event of an opioid overdose as it reverses or acts as an antagonist to the effects drugs such as heroine, hydrocodone and oxycodone. The growing use of NARCAN is credited with saving many lives that would have otherwise been lost to drug overdoses.

The training is open to first responders as well as to the general public. According to Harry Wilkinson, President of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Riverhead, "The NARCAN training program is consistent with Kiwanis Club's mission of 'improving the world, one child and one community at a time.' We've lost so many children to heroin overdoses and training people to administer NARCAN will save lives."

Participants will be trained in recognizing opioid overdose, the proper way to administer intranasal NARCAN and what to do until EMS arrives. Certificates of Completion as well as an emergency resuscitation kit, which includes NARCAN, will be given to individuals who take the course.

Those interested in the training should contact the Kiwanis Club of Greater Riverhead at 631-463-5811 before October 20, 2014.